

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 96-232-W - ORDER NO. 98-145
FEBRUARY 25, 1998

IN RE: Concerned Citizens Against Carolina)	ORDER <i>1/12</i>
Water, Inc.,)	REQUIRING
)	STAFF MANAGEMENT
Complainant,)	AUDIT
)	
vs.)	
)	
Carolina Water Service, Inc.,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	
_____)	


This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) for further consideration of the management audit of Carolina Water Service, Inc. (CWS or the Company) first ordered by us in Order No. 97-38. Order No. 97-192 denied the CWS request for reconsideration of this issue. The Company subsequently filed a Petition for Judicial Review of this matter.

On October 14, 1997, this Commission issued Order No. 97-874, by which the Commission modified the original requirements by mandating that the Company contract for the conduct of the management audit at its own expense. CWS requested reconsideration of this Order, and in Order No. 97-1018 we granted notice and opportunity to be heard to CWS on the issue of its having to fund the management audit.

Since that time, we have reconsidered our position on this matter, and do now hold that our Commission Staff shall conduct the management audit of Carolina Water Service, Inc. We believe that our Staff has the necessary expertise and experience to properly conduct such an audit, and that Staff is probably best equipped to do so. We now hold that CWS need not hire outside auditors at its own expense to conduct the management audit.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Deputy Executive Director

(SEAL)